

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/18/2024 4:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I want to tell you how much old growth forests mean to me personally, but it's not possible. I spend vacation days, traveling with my 19-year-old son finding champion trees. They just seem to speak to us. As weird as that sounds, there are so so many other scientific and economic reasons to preserve the old growth forests. The people that alerted me to the comment period say it more clearly than I can, and understand the complex issues better than I do. BUT one thing I know, once it's gone, it's gone. Preserve and protect. It's really important. Thanks for doing what you can.

ATTACHMENT: save the trees.png - image of instructions on what statements to include in comment:

"Stop cutting! - Immediately stop cutting old-growth in the Daniel Boon National Forest"

"Old-growth Managment' - Any management in old-growth forests, including prescribed fire and understory management, should be the minimum necessary to support existing and future old-growth structure and function as appropriate for the community type"

"Eliminate exceptions - Eliminate exceptions in the plan that allow forest managers discretion to convert old-growth to young forests, or to otherwise degrade or diminish forests' old growth condition"

"Importance of Old-Growth - Recognize the importance of old-growth across all forest types, including disturbance-mediated forest communities like upland and fire-adapted oak forests and woodlands."

"Identification and inventory - Ensure that the inventory and identification of old-growth is scientifically sound. Make the process of identifying old-growth forests transparent, consistent, and open to public input. Involve researchers, ecologists, and other outside experts in the identification and inventory process"

Steward mature growth - Require that mature forests be managed for future old-growth in a manner that ensures a variety of patch sizes, wide distribution, and good connectivity across the Daniel Boon National Forest, improving on the deficiencies in the current Forest Plan."

"Old-growth network - Develop a plan for a network of future old-growth through an open participatory, and scientifically sound process"